

APPLICANT: Avner SHAFRIR, et al.
SERIAL NO.: 09/583,734
DOCKET NO.: 23452-112
CUSTOMER NO.: 29315

Remarks

Applicants thank the Examiner for the courtesies extended to the Applicants' representative during the telephone conference of November 3, 2003.

A Request for Continued Examination (RCE) is concurrently filed herewith.

A Request for an Examiner Interview Under 37 C.F.R § 1.133 is also concurrently filed herewith. The Examiner is requested to contact the undersigned attorney to arrange a personal interview.

Claims 1-22 are all the claims pending in this application. Selected claims are amended to clarify and more particularly indicate the claimed subject matter. The amendments are made for the purpose of expediting prosecution and are not made to overcome claim rejections. Reconsideration and allowance of all of the rejected claims are respectfully requested in view of the foregoing remarks.

Claim Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claim 1-22 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as allegedly being anticipated by "Chatting in Style," University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, School of Information and Library Science. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection on the following basis.

Independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15, 21 and 22 recite the feature of presenting at least one user indicator within at least one electronic document, wherein the at least one electronic document is generated using any of a plurality of applications, among other things. In an exemplary embodiment, network users may determine the status of other network users wherever a user indicator is presented within electronic documents created by any application of the system, wherein the electronic documents may be e-mail documents, HTML documents or any other electronic documents (see the specification at page 5, last paragraph bridging onto page 6).

In contrast, the portion of "Chatting in Style" relied on by the Examiner discloses a drop down window having status indicators, wherein the drop down window is generated by the ICQ application (see page 2 of "Chatting in Style"). There is no teaching or suggestion in "Chatting in Style" for enabling any other application to generate the drop down window that provides the status indicators. As a result, Applicants claimed subject matter is distinguished from "Chatting in Style," which fails to teach or suggest presenting at least one user indicator within at least one

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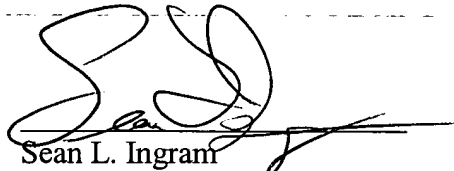
electronic document, wherein the at least one electronic document is generated using any of a plurality of applications.

In view of the comments above, Applicants respectfully submit that the cited reference does not satisfy the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §102(a). Thus, independent claims 1, 6, 10, 15, 21 and 22 are believed to be allowable over the cited reference and dependent claims 2-5, 7-9, 11-14, and 16-20 are allowable at least by virtue of their dependency.

In the event that it is determined that any fees are due, except for the Issue Fee, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the undersigned's Deposit Account No. 50-0311.

Dated: November 17, 2003

Respectfully submitted,



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